

Executive Summary

DoD Support to BP Oil Spill – Gulf of Mexico

May 11, 2010 (0700 EDT)

1. (U//FOUO) Command, Control, and Coordination
 - ◆ National Incident Commander (NIC): Admiral Thad Allen, USCG.
 - ◆ Combatant Commander: USNORTHCOM, Gen. Gene Renuart, USAF, Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, CO.
 - ◆ Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC): USCG Eighth District Commander, RADM Mary E. Landry, New Orleans, LA.
2. (U) Background
 - ◆ Event: The DEEPWATER HORIZON, a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU), moored in the Gulf of Mexico 51 miles Southeast of Venice, LA sank on 22 April at 1020 EDT following a severe explosion at around 0900 EDT, 20 April. DHS declared a Spill of National Significance at 1200 EDT, 29 April.
3. (U) Situation Update
 - ◆ Operations Summary: **Efforts to resolve cofferdam methane hydrate crystal buildup on first cofferdam have been ineffective. Second cofferdam is being modified at Port Fourchon, LA. Second Cofferdam is a redesign of the top piece of the existing cofferdam that will avoid the build-up of the clogging hydrate crystals; expected completion could take up to 2 weeks.**
 - ◆ Weather Report: 10 May - ESE winds 15 knots in the morning becoming SE 15 knots in the afternoon; Seas 4 feet. The forecast for the next three days is as follows:
 - **Tuesday 11 May: Southeast winds near 15 knots; seas 3-4 ft.**
 - **Wednesday 12 May: Southeast winds 15-20 knots; seas 4-5 ft.**
 - **Thursday 13 May: Southeast winds 15-20 knots; seas 5 ft.**
 - ◆ Landfall Update: **The USCG reported 2 mile long strip of small tar balls on Dauphin Island, AL. The Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Team (SCAT) was deployed; the tar balls have been removed.**
 - ◆ Boom Deployment: USCG reports that **1,175,400 ft feet of boom** allocated for use. Construction of gating and booming systems for entrance to Mobile Bay is underway. **DoD strategic airlift and BP contracted commercial aircraft to move 150,000 feet of boom from Anchorage, AK to New Orleans, LA.**
 - ◆ Skimming/In Situ Burn (ISB) Operations: **Skimming is not scheduled for 11 May due to wind conditions. Two skimming attempts on 10 May were unsuccessful due to rough seas.**

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- ◆ **Dispersant: 56,220 gallons of surface dispersant applied on 10 May via 17 flights.** A total of 444,706 gallons of dispersants have been applied to date. **Subsea dispersant 24-hr test began 0500 EDT 10 May at a rate of 10 gallons per minute.**
 - ◆ **Source Remediation:** Two of the original three leaks remain; oil continues to disgorge at a rate of approximately 5,000 barrels (210,000 gallons) per day. **Drill rig DDIII has reached a depth of 3,537 ft below the floor.** Relief well drilling efforts suspended pending results of scheduled tests on the riser and BOP. **Gamma Ray scan imaging of the BOP has verified the four major rams are closed.** Drilling completion anticipated on or about 3 Aug.
 - ◆ **Oil Recovery and Clean up:** USCG reports that 5,780 barrels (242,760 gallons) of oily water mix were recovered on 9 May bringing total recovered to date to 97,688 barrels (4,102,896). (1 barrel=42 gallons)
 - ◆ **Local Effects:** All shipping channels and ports remain open in the Gulf Coast Region. **Commercial vessel operators report minor delays due to diversions to avoid the affected area.** Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries announced that it will be closing additional recreational and commercial fishing areas.
4. (U//FOUO) Federal and State Response
- ◆ **Federal Involvement:** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and EPA activated the National Response Team in Washington, DC, and Regional Response Teams (NRTs) for the Gulf States, to enhance coordination of agencies involved in the response.
 - ◆ **State Response:** The Governors of the States of Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, and Alabama have all declared states of emergency.
 - **LA:** Approved to activate up to 1100 National Guard members in Title 32 status to perform security, communications, site safety, beach cleanup, assessment, aviation support, other mission support, and liaison duties.
 - **MS:** Approved to activate up to **136** National Guard members in Title 32 status for air reconnaissance, command and control, transportation, security, and liaison duties.
 - **AL:** Approved to activate up to **221** National Guard members in Title 32 status to perform barrier placement, security, air reconnaissance, air transport, public affairs, and liaison duties.
 - **FL:** Approved to activate 1 National Guard member in Title 32 status for liaison duties.

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5. (U//FOUO) DoD Operations and Capabilities

◆ USN Assistance to USCG:

- USN is providing assistance in the areas of skimming and salvage operations. Specific capabilities provided include:
 - (1) The Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, MS is acting as Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (SUPSALV) staging facility. 92 USN personnel are supporting SUPSALV missions.
 - (2) 16 Modular Skimming Systems (MSS) have been deployed to Gulfport, MS.
 - (3) **1.175m feet of boom** and supporting equipment.
 - (4) 85 flat bed trucks carrying Emergency Ship Salvage Material (ESSM) supplies have arrived at staging areas for immediate deployment.
 - (5) Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola is acting as a staging facility for USCG equipment.
 - (6) Two liaison officers to support FOSC.

◆ USNORTHCOM:

- Two Modular Aerial Spray System (MASS) aircraft and Combat Camera Team are deployed to Stennis International Airport (IAP), MS. **On 10 May, 10 scheduled MASS missions were flown and completed.**
- Defense Coordinating Officer (DCO), Defense Coordinating Element (DCE), information exchange broker, and Air Component Coordination Element (ACCE) deployed to incident command centers in Mobile, AL and Robert, LA. Contingency Command Post element (2-star plus staff) redeployed to home station on 7 May.
- Keesler Air Force Base, MS and Gulfport Naval Base, MS are identified as base supporting installations.

◆ USTRANSCOM:

- **Five commercial aircraft and 9-10 C-17 lift missions transporting 150k ft of BP pollution response boom and approx 250 STONS of Navy UPSALV equipment commenced movement from AK to LA. One IL-76 and one 747 are confirmed to have arrived in New Orleans. The first 3 C-17 missions are scheduled to arrive in the vicinity New Orleans at 0810, 1015 and 1700 hrs (EDT) on 11 May.**

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- ◆ **Force Summary: Joint Staff reports as of 0500 EDT, 11 May: 1,473 associated DoD personnel deployed in support of spill cleanup and mitigation. Title 10: 78, National Guard members Title 32: 1,304, National Guard members State Active Duty 0, DoD Civilian: 4, and Contractor: 87.**
- 6. (U//FOUO) Requests for Assistance (RFA)
 - ◆ **RFA for Transport: RFA for strategic lift of 150k ft of BP pollution response boom and 250 short tons of Navy salvage equipment from Anchorage, AK to New Orleans, LA has been approved by the Secretary of Defense.**
 - ◆ **RFA for Equipment: RFA for movement of booms, skimming equipment, workboats, personnel, and other support equipment is currently in coordination.**
 - ◆ **RFA for Manpower Support: RFI for National Guard Bureau (NGB) manpower support to the incident command center in Robert, LA, the NGB Joint Operations Command Center, and the state Joint Force Headquarters is currently in coordination.**
 - ◆ **RFA for Title 32 National Guard**
 - The Secretary of Defense has authorized Title 32 status for members of the National Guard for up to 90 days with the provision that the following criteria are met:
 - (1) All costs are reimbursable (from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund or other appropriate sources, pursuant to the law and underlying regulations).
 - (2) The FOOSC or National Incident Commander (NIC), as appropriate, has validated the requirement.
 - (3) The FOOSC (or NIC, as appropriate) determines that all the costs incurred by DoD for utilizing National Guard forces are reasonable.
 - Specific Title 32 authorizations by state are:
 - (1) LA: 6,000
 - (2) AL: 3,000
 - (3) MS: 6,000
 - (4) FL: 2,500